REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-16 remain active in this application. Claims 1-6 and 17-29 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

The outstanding Office Action indicates that Claims 7-16 are allowed and that Claims 17-29 are held to be drawn to an invention non-elected by original claim presentation. This Action set a two month period for applicant to either cancel Claims 17-29 or to petition under 37 CFR §1.144.

As Claims 7-16 stand allowed and as Claims 17-29 that were held to be drawn to an invention non-elected by original claim presentation have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, the application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance and a favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04) OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & MEUSTADT, P.C.

Eckhard H. Kuesters Attorney of Record Registration No. 28,870 Raymond F. Cardillo, Jr. Registration No. 40,440